Listing of Claims

- 1. (original) A process for preparing an olefin copolymer, comprising the step of contacting:
- (a) a monomer component comprising ethylene and a diene of the formula $H_2C=CH(CH_2)_nCH=CHR^{19}$, wherein R^{19} is hydrogen or an n-alkyl containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms, and n is 0 or an integer of 1 to 28; and
- (b) an active copolymerization catalyst, under conditions to copolymerize the monomers of the monomer component, wherein the active copolymerization catalyst comprises an iron complex of a 2,6-pyridinecarboxaldehyde-bis(imine) or a 2,6-diacylpyridinebis(imine).
- 2. (original) The process as recited in claim 1, wherein the active copolymerization catalyst comprises an iron complex of a tridentate ligand of the formula (I)

$$R^{1}$$
 R^{4}
 R^{6}
 R^{2}
 R^{3}
 R^{5}
 R^{7} (1)

wherein:

 R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are each independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl or an inert functional group, provided that any two of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 vicinal to one another, taken together may form a ring; and

 ${\sf R}^6$ and ${\sf R}^7$ are each independently aryl or substituted aryl.

- 3. (original) The process as recited in claim 1, wherein the monomer component further comprises one or more α -olefins of the formula $H_2C=CHR^{20}$, wherein R^{20} is n-alkyl containing 1 to 18 carbon atoms.
- 4. (original) The process as recited in claim 1 wherein the active catalyst is an iron complex of a tridentate ligand of the formula (VII)

$$R^{9}$$
 R^{10}
 R^{10}
 R^{11}
 R^{12}
 R^{12}
 R^{13}
 R^{14}
 R^{16}
 R^{15}
 R^{14}
 R^{15}

wherein:

 R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , R^{14} , R^{15} and R^{16} is each independently halogen, alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms, or hydrogen;

R⁸ and R¹³ is each independently halogen, phenyl or alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms; and

 ${\sf R}^{12}$ and ${\sf R}^{17}$ is each independently halogen, phenyl, hydrogen, or alkyl containing 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

- 5. (original) The process as recited in claim 1, wherein n is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 6.
- 6. (original) The process as recited in claim 5, wherein n is 1, 2, 3 or 4.
- 7. (original) The process as recited in claim 1, wherein R¹⁹ is hydrogen or methyl.
- 8-14. (canceled).